**Research and Development Project**

**Language Arts/Science**

**Student Learning Teams/Invention Convention**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Learning Team \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Project**: Each member of your Student Learning Team will complete the research project in support of your team’s project goals. You will need to follow each of the Big 6 steps and document your research process. In the end you will produce a group synthesis describing and assessing the elements of each team member’s resource, conveying a sense of its effectiveness and usefulness for your team’s project. Your condensed one-paragraph version of your synthesis will be a part of your “tri-fold” presentation for the Invention Convention.

**Step 1: Task Definition**

* 1. Restate the assignment in your own words as it relates to the work being conducted by your team.
  2. What is the information you would like to uncover in your search? What do you need to know? What are the questions you might ask about this topic? How will this information help you and your team in your work? How is your research different from others on your team? Which science concepts are related to your research and project work?

**Step 2: Information Seeking Strategies**

2.1 List all the possible resources you could consult for your research.

2.2 Evaluate and prioritize the resources you’ve listed above. Explain your evaluations. Which sources from the list can help you find the best information in relation to the “task definition” part of this assignment? What kind of help might you need to complete your project?

**Step 3: Location and Access**

3.1 How and when will you access the sources you need to consult?

3.2 Delve into each of your resources to locate the information you are looking for.

Make a list of key words related to your topic. Look back to your “task definition” step for this part of the project for help with this. What do you need to do to use each of these sources efficiently? In other words, what will you actually do (mini-steps) to find the information you need.

**Step 4: Use of Information**

4.1 Use your “Research and Development Log” to track all of the sources you examine for the information you need.

4.2 Summarize and save the information you need. Be sure to indicate direct quotations (anything you copy and paste, for instance) with quotation marks. If you quote sources directly, be careful to quote accurately and exactly.

**Step 5: Synthesis**

5.1 Write a paragraph about your research for your group synthesis. Describe your source. Summarize key ideas that are relevant to your project. Quote what is quotable. Name your sources. Evaluate your source’s usefulness for your group project.

5.2 Collect all of your group’s research paragraphs into one document. Review this together: identify common themes, organize paragraphs into a logical progression, and provide an introduction and conclusion. Create a standard bibliography listing all of your group’s sources in alphabetical order. Note: A bibliography entry is not merely a URL.

**Step 6: Evaluation**

6.1 Before you attach your collective synthesis to your tri-fold for the Invention Convention, ask yourself the following questions about both your contribution and your group’s collective work:

* Did you do everything and include all that was required for the assignment?
* Did you give credit to all of your sources, written in the way your teacher requested?
* Is your work neat?
* Is your work complete and does it include heading information (name, date, etc.)
* Would you be proud for anyone to view this work?

6.2 As part of your oral presentation for the invention convention, include a final reflection on the following questions:

* What did you learn that you can use again?
* How will you use the skill(s) again?
* What did you do well this time?
* What would you do differently next time?
* What information sources did you find useful? You may be able to use them again.
* What information sources did you need but did not have? Be sure to talk to your librarian and your teachers about getting them.